URBAN DISTRICT
OF
PORTISHEAD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1968

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HOUSING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

1967/68	1968/69
Chairman	**Chairman**
Mrs. H. Veale	Mr. H.G. Amor
Vice-Chairman	**Vice-Chairman**
Mr. L.A. Stevenson	Mrs. G. Golasz
Mrs. M.P. Brown	Mrs. M.P. Brown
Mrs. G. Golasz	Mrs. N.R.G. Johnston
Mrs. N.R.G. Johnston	Mrs. H. Veale (Chairman of the Council)
Miss E.M. Wigan	Miss E.M. Wigan
Mr. H.R. Bishop	Mr. V. Gallop
Mr. V. Gallop	Mr. R.F. Padfield (Vice-Chairman of the Council)
Mr. R.F. Padfield (Chairman of the Council)	Mr. L.A. Stevenson
Mr. S. Windibank (Vice-Chairman of the Council)	Mr. S. Windibank

OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:	Dr. Valerie N.Baker, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health:	Dr. Amy Baird, M.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H. (until 31st March 1968) Dr. Olwyn K. Ockelford, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.C.H. (from 1st April 1968)
Public Health Inspector:	Mr. S. Taylor, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Area Health Office,
2, Marson Road,
Clevedon.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Portishead Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1968.

The estimated population of Portishead rose by 300 from the previous year. The birth rate rose, against the national trend, which has been a falling one since 1964.

A good deal of concern was expressed by the Council and public over the amount of low level fumes emitted from Albright & Wilson's phosphorous factory. Meetings between representatives of the Council and firm took place and although the firm took many precautions to reduce the low level emissions, they were not very successful.

Otherwise the year was uneventful. I would like to thank Councillors and staff for their pleasant cooperation.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

V. N. BAKER

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STATISTICAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

General Statistics - 1968

Area	1,119 acres
Population (mid year estimate)	7,790
Area comparability factors	Births - 1.00 Deaths - 1.23
Rateable Value, 1st April 1968	£538,779
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£2,166

Vital Statistics for 1968

Live Births	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Legitimate	80	57	137	
Illegitimate	5	-	5	
Totals	85	57	142	= 18.2
Stillbirths	0	0	0	Rate per 1,000 (live and still births) = 0
Deaths	49	38	87	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population = 11.2

Illegitimate live births

Rate per cent of total live births = 3.6

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - 0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	(total = 2)	- 14
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	(total = 2)	- 14.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	(total = 0)	- 0
Neonatal mortality rate, deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	(total = 2)	- 14
Early neonatal mortality rate, deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	(total = 2)	- 14
Perinatal mortality rate, stillbirths and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and still births	(total = 2)	- 14

Vital Statistics - 1962-1968

Live Births

Year	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total	Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population		
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Portishead		England & Wales
						Crude	Adjusted	
1962	79	70	1	5	155	-	23.0	18.0
1963	62	55	3	1	121	17.2	18.9	18.2
1964	60	67	5	1	133	18.7	20.6	18.4
1965	81	61	4	4	150	20.7	22.8	18.1
1966	84	71	11	4	155	21.0	23.1	17.7
1967	55	68	5	5	133	17.8	19.6	17.2
1968	80	57	5	0	142	18.2	18.2	16.9

The adjusted birth rate, is the crude rate multiplied by the area comparability factor, which adjusts the age and sex distribution of the population to correspond with those of England and Wales. The same applies to the adjusted death rate.

Stillbirths

Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	
				Portishead	England & Wales
1962	0	3	3	19.0	18.1
1963	0	1	1	8.2	17.3
1964	1	0	1	7.5	16.4
1965	1	1	2	13.3	15.7
1966	0	1	1	6.4	15.7
1967	0	0	0	0	14.8
1968	0	0	0	0	14.0

Vital Statistics - 1962-1968

Deaths

Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population: Portishead Crude	Portishead Adjusted	England & Wales
1962	35	30	65	-	9.7	11.9
1963	38	39	77	11.2	12.4	12.2
1964	42	33	75	10.5	12.0	11.3
1965	41	34	75	10.3	11.0	11.5
1966	36	46	82	11.1	12.4	11.7
1967	40	35	75	10.0	11.3	11.2
1968	49	38	87	11.2	13.8	11.9

	Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births: Portishead	England & Wales	Death Rate under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 total live births: Portishead	England & Wales	Death Rate of infants under one week of age & stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths: Portishead	England & Wales
1962	0	21.6	0	15.1	19.0	30.8
1963	24.8	20.9	24.8	14.2	32.8	29.3
1964	7.5	20.0	7.5	13.8	14.9	28.2
1965	0	19.0	0	13.0	13.3	26.9
1966	12.9	19.0	12.9	12.9	12.8	26.3
1967	15.0	18.3	8.0	12.5	8.0	25.4
1968	14.0	18.0	14.0	12.3	14.0	25.0

POPULATION

Year	Estimated mid-year population	Total increase from previous year	Natural increase	Net Immigration
1962	6,730	-	-	-
1963	7,040	310	44	266
1964	7,130	90	58	32
1965	7,260	130	75	55
1966	7,370	110	73	37
1967	7,490	120	58	62
1968	7,790	300	55	245

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1968

	SEX	Total all Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 & under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
Other Tuberculosis, inc. late effects	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	3
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Ischaemic heart disease	M	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	6	5
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Other forms of heart disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebrovascular disease	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2
	F	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	10
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Bronchitis and emphysema	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Other diseases of digestive system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor vehicle accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total all causes	M	49	2	-	-	-	1	-	2	4	12	11	17
	F	38	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	3	6	25

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Scarlet Fever	1	1	5	2	-	-	-
Whooping cough	-	29	2	-	-	2	-
Measles	-	54	3	47	-	93	4
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	6	1	-	2	-	-
non-respiratory	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	1	-	-	24	24	-
Acute pneumonia	-	2	-	-	1	1	-
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47) and AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

A woman suffering from grave chronic disease and in need of daily help, who was removed from her home in 1967, continues to live in hospital.

WATER SUPPLY

For much of the year, the hardness of the water was high, indicating that it was supplied from Chelvey. The installation of a water softening plant was commenced, and should be in operation in early 1969.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The whole of the urban district is sewered apart from a few isolated individual dwellings and this discharges untreated into the Bristol Channel. A surface water sewer to drain Wetlands Lane, Gordano School and the Clevedon Road areas, was completed at a cost of £21,000.

Storm relief sewers are proposed to serve Station Road and the southern end of the High Street.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly collection of household refuse continues to operate. Trade refuse is collected at an agreed charge. A paper sack system was introduced in part of the area during the year and is proving quite successful.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district	2,799	6
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	33	-
Number infested by (i) Rats	25	-
(ii) Mice	8	-
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	15	-
Number infested by (i) Rats	7	-
(ii) Mice	2	-

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

There is little change in the pattern of smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution in the area.

There were again many complaints concerning emission of white fumes from Albright & Wilson's phosphorous factory in the latter half of the year. Regular meetings between Council and factory representatives took place in an attempt to reduce the high and low level emissions of fume to a minimum. The factory is due to close in early 1969 and be used as a storage depot.

HOUSING

Number of houses demolished or closed -
(a) under section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 (individual unfits) - 6
(b) for other purposes (road improvements etc.) - 13
Number of houses made fit during year - 8

	Houses erected during year		Houses in course of erection		Gained from conversion of large houses or buildings into flats or dwellings	Lost from conversion of two or more houses to one
	For slum clearance	For other purposes	For slum clearance	For other purposes		
Local Authority	-	3	-	-	-	-
Private enterprise	-	142	-	156	-	-

Number of post-war houses erected from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1968 -

By local authority - 619 By private enterprise - 935

Local authority housing programme - 1969 - 20 houses
1970 - 38 flats and maisonettes
1971/72 - 5 houses

Number of temporary housing units occupied - (i) Prefabs - Nil
(ii) Huts etc. - Nil

Number of houses found overcrowded - 13

Houses required:
(i) To replace houses scheduled for demolition - 7
(ii) To abate overcrowding - 13
(iii) For other purposes - 0
(iv) Applications for council houses at end of year
(a) Urgent bona fide cases - 2
(b) Applications for Old People's Dwellings - 12
(c) Others - 63
Total applications 77

(v) Total number of council houses sold during year - 5

	No. of permanent dwellings in District as at 31.12.67	Gained from (a) conversions and (b) erected during 1968		Total	Less houses demolished, closed etc. during year	No. of permanent dwellings in district as at 31.12.68	
		(a)	(b)			L.A.	P.E.
Local Authority	772	-	3+12*	787	14	768*	
Private Enterprise	1629	-	142+5	1776	5		1759
Totals	2401	-	157	2563	19	2527	

* Includes 99 privately built houses purchased by the Council, 12 in 1968

OLD PEOPLE'S DWELLINGS

Number erected to 31.12.68		Number in course of erection	
With County Council Aid	Without County Council Aid	With County Council Aid	Without County Council Aid
66	-	-	-

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

A. Discretionary

Number of applications and houses dealt with by Local Authority during year:

Received		Approved	
Applications	No.of dwellings	Applications	No.of dwellings
2	2	2	2

Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers during year - 2

Average cost per dwelling approved during year - £680

Amount of grant payable by local authority - £475

B. Standard

1. Number of applications (a) Received - 3
   (b) Approved - 3

2. Number of houses where standard amenities have been provided - 3

Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers during the year - 3

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

		Permanent	Seasonal
(a)	Number of single caravans licensed	Nil	Nil
(b)	Number of site licences issued in respect of more than one caravan	1	Nil
(c)	Estimated maximum number of occupants resident during year	28	Nil
(d)	Number of sites closed as a result of above Act	Nil	Nil
(e)	Camping sites - number of unlicensed sites in use	Nil	Nil

FOOD

MILK

(a) Number of Registered Distributors - 7
(b) Number of Registered Dairy Premises (other than dairy farms) - 7

Notices served under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 - Nil

ICE CREAM

Number of premises registered for:

(a) Manufacture and Retail - Nil	(b) Manufacture only - nil	(c) Retail only - 30

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS

No prosecutions were instituted. Regular routine inspections were carried out. The general standard of cleanliness in handling and storage was quite reasonable. Several premises showed improvement in decorations and new applicances - particularly refrigeration plant. Verbal notices were given to a few shops concerning storage and disposal of refuse. Much of the food surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year resulted from a breakdown in refrigeration.

Food premises subject to the above Regulations:

(i) Number of premises - 67
(ii) Number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 - 67
(iii) Number of premises to which Reg. 19 applies - 39
(iv) Number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 - 39

THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS

Action taken during the year - Nil

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT

No slaughterhouses are owned or leased by the local authority. There are no private slaughterhouses, or bacon factories.

PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED

Number registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (ice cream, manufactured meat products, etc.) - 8

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

The five farms in the area comply with the provisions of the Act concerning sanitary conveniences. They were all inspected.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Number of premises registered under the Act - 80

Many of the premises have been brought up to the standard required by the Act. Some notices have been served but no prosecutions instituted.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are no animal boarding establishments in Portishead.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Name of Bath	Water			Treatment		Chlorination	
	Main	Sea	Other	Recirculation	Filtration	Automatic	Hand
Battery Point, Lake Grounds	Both		-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
National Nautical School	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-

18 samples were taken from Battery Point Pool and all were satisfactory.

Temperature, pH and chlorine residual tests are carried out twice daily at the Battery Point Pool and all records are kept.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

1. **Part I of the Act**

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A's	13	16	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority	15	24	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority (excluding out workers' premises)	19	35	-	-
	47	75	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	No.of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	3	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	7	6	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 133 and 134) - nil